








Three Little Apples Counting Rhyme

SAY	ACTIONS
<p>Three little apples in an apple tree. Three little apples smiled down at me.</p>	
<p>I shook that tree as hard as I <u>could</u>,</p>	
<p>And down came an apple – (<i>crunch</i>) - mmm-mmm good!</p>	
<p>Two little apples in an apple tree. Two little apples smiled down at me.</p>	
<p>I shook the tree as hard as I <u>could</u>,</p>	
<p>And down came an apple – (<i>crunch</i>) - mmm-mmm good!</p>	
<p>One little apple in an apple tree. One little apple smiled down at me.</p>	
<p>I shook the tree as hard as I <u>could</u>,</p>	
<p>And down came an apple – (<i>crunch</i>) - mmm-mmm- good!</p>	
<p>No more little apples in the apple tree.</p>	
<p>Three little apples inside me!</p>	

The clipart graphics are from <http://clipart-library.com/>

Dear Parents:

Acting out this counting poem helps your children learn the **counting pattern** in a fun way. Young children like to repeat the same things often. This is one way they learn.

Feel free to change the actions to be fun for you and your children. After your children learn the actions, you can change the poem by starting with four apples or five apples.

Rhyming helps children get ready for reading. Rhyming words help students listen for patterns in words and make predictions.

Words rhyme when the sound at the end of the words is the same. In English, the words “tree” and “me” rhyme because they both end with the sound: / ē /.

If you have a song you liked to sing when you were a child, sing it with your children! Songs and poems often have rhyming words in them. After you repeat the song or poem enough times, you can hesitate before you say the rhyming word, to give your child a chance to remember it.

If you speak another language besides English at home:

You can use the translation of “Three Little Apples” to practice **counting**. The translation usually will not have a rhyming pattern.

To help your children **understand rhyming patterns**, you can sing songs or say a poem you remember in your home language to help your children learn to listen for patterns in words, like rhyming.

If you and your children are able to call or have “face time” with relatives, maybe they can spend some time singing a favorite children’s song or poem with your children.